



Department
of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal



Public Safety Vehicle Decals for Ohio's Fire Service

Ken Klouda

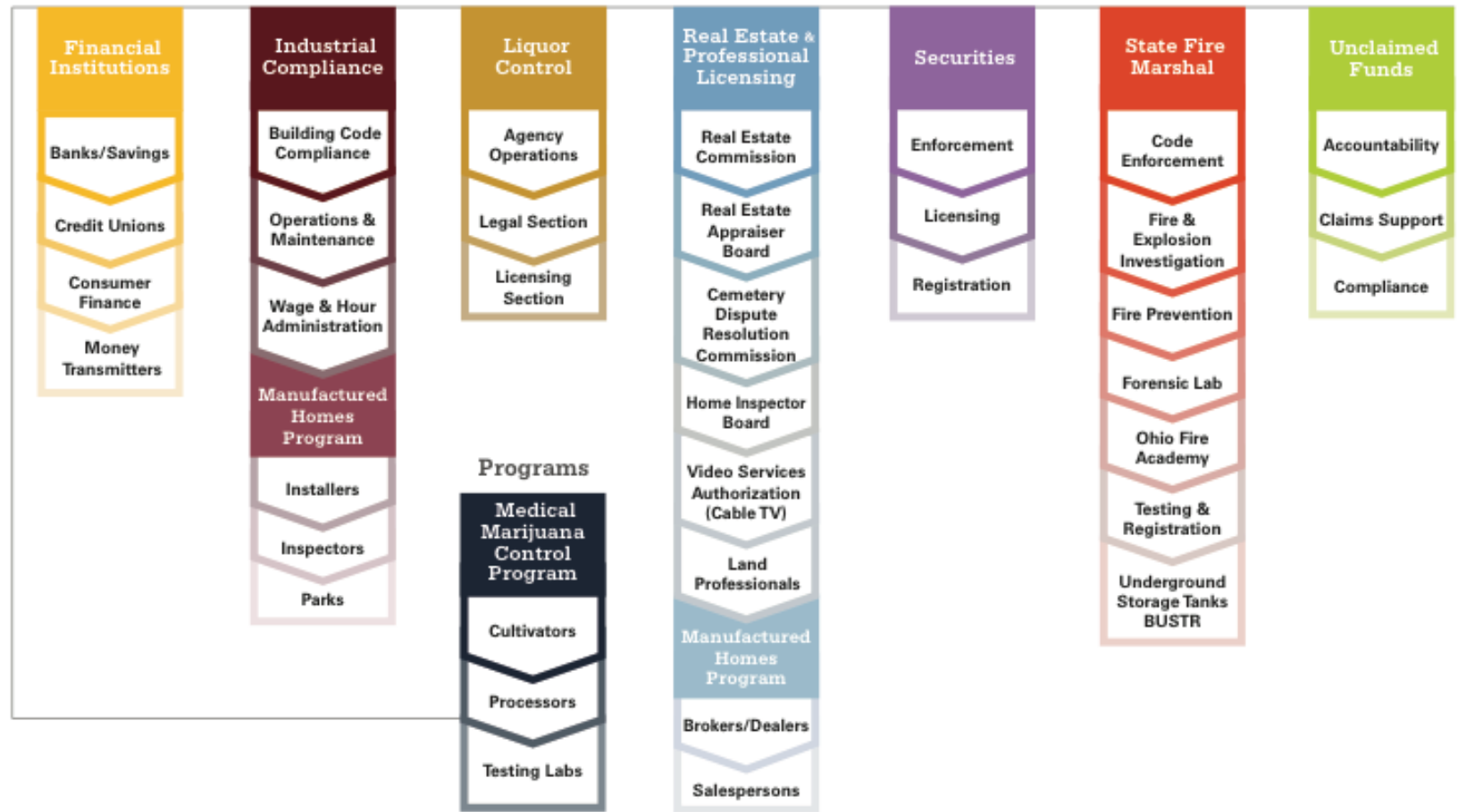
Chief

Fire Prevention Bureau

Division of State Fire Marshal

The Ohio Department of Commerce is focused on equipping businesses and protecting consumers.

Commerce has seven divisions, including the Division of State Fire Marshal. Our goal is to keep Ohioan's safe, sound and secure.



What is the Purpose of the Program?

- To establish a procedure for issuing decals for vehicles designated as public safety vehicles.
- This presentation will help explain the entire process from start to finish.
- First we must talk about the law and what a public safety vehicle is.

What is the Purpose of the Program?

- We get the ability to have personal vehicles designated as a public safety vehicle through the Ohio Revised Code (ORC)
- Specifically, ORC section 4511.01(E) Traffic laws – Operation of motor vehicles definitions, Public Safety Vehicles
- 4511.01(E)(3) includes the following:
 - Any motor vehicle... properly identified as required by the director of public safety

What is the Purpose of the Program?

- ORC 4511.01(E)(3) Continued
 - When used in response to fire emergency calls or to provide emergency medical service...
 - When operated by a duly qualified person who is a member of a volunteer rescue service or a volunteer fire department **and** who is on duty pursuant to the rules or directives of that service.
 - The state fire marshal shall be designated by the director of public safety as the certifying agency for all public safety vehicles described in division (E)(3) of this section.

What is the Purpose of the Program?

- The ORC outlines the specific timeframes that a personal vehicle is considered a public safety vehicle.
- ORC 4511.041 gives exceptions to traffic rules for public safety vehicles responding to emergency calls.
- If any of these measures are not met, the personal vehicle is not considered a public safety vehicle and must follow all traffic laws.

Division of State Fire Marshal Policy

- The Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is the certifying agency according to the ORC so...
 - A policy has been established for local agencies to follow to obtain public safety vehicle certification(s) from the SFM for agency members.
 - The Fire Prevention Bureau of the SFM handles all requests for public safety vehicles.

Division of State Fire Marshal Policy

- For this policy, a motor vehicle is defined as:
 - A self-propelled four (4) wheeled vehicle that does not operate on rails, such as trains or trolleys.
 - The vehicles propulsion is provided by an engine or motor
 - For the purpose of the policy, motor vehicles only include automobiles or cars, and light trucks or light duty trucks.

Division of State Fire Marshal Policy

- All POV's used by volunteer firefighters and/or rescue personnel must meet the following requirements in order to be classified as a public safety vehicle:
 - Must have the State of Ohio minimum insurance limits for bodily injury and property damage.
 - If responding on an “emergency” must have lights and sirens.
 - Must pass an annual inspection by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP).
 - Must have a current vehicle decal issued by the State Fire Marshal.

State of Ohio Minimum Insurance

- Let's break down each of the policy items, starting with the first item, insurance.
- The State of Ohio requires vehicle operators to have minimum insurance limits for bodily injury and property damage.
- A person operating a personal vehicle being used as a public safety vehicle is not exempt from this law.

Lights and Sirens

- **A public safety vehicle must be equipped with and displaying at least one flashing, rotating, or oscillating light.**
- **This light must be visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the vehicle.**
- **The driver of the vehicle must give an audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell while the light is in operation.**

ORC 4511.041 Exceptions to Traffic Rules for Emergency or Public Safety Vehicles Responding to Emergency Call

- **Sections 4511.12, 4511.13, 4511.131, 4511.132, 4511.14, 4511.15, 4511.202, 4511.21, 4511.211, 4511.22, 4511.23, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.40, 4511.41, 4511.42, 4511.43, 4511.431, 4511.432, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.57, 4511.58, 4511.59, 4511.60, 4511.61, 4511.62, 4511.66, 4511.68, 4511.681, and 4511.69 of the Revised Code do not apply to the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle if the emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle is responding to an emergency call, is equipped with and displaying at least one flashing, rotating, or oscillating light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the vehicle and if the driver of the vehicle is giving an audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell.**

ORC 4511.041 Exceptions to Traffic Rules for Emergency or Public Safety Vehicles Responding to Emergency Call

- This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle from the duty to drive with *due regard* for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway.

Annual Inspection

- Must pass an annual inspection by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP).
 - This means the vehicle being inspected must pass an inspection set up with the local OSP post.
 - Can be completed at the post, the fire and/or rescue department, or other agreed upon location.

Fire and/or Rescue Department's Responsibilities for Inspection

- The department Chief or designee shall be responsible for the following:
 - Setting up a date, time, and location with the OSP post for the vehicle inspections.
 - Verifying that the operator holds a valid certification as a fire and/or EMS provider issued by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS.
 - Prior to inspection, verify completion of the top half of Public Safety Vehicle Inspection Form (Form COM 5031, pictured on next slide)

Fire and/or Rescue Department's Responsibilities for Inspection

- Department Chief or designee responsibilities, continued:
 - After successful completion of the inspection, maintain on file the successful OSP Inspection. (Form COM 5031)
 - Complete and submit Public Safety Vehicle Application for Decals to the SFM. (Form DOC 5082, pictured on next slide)
 - Ensure the Maltese Cross and Decal are removed by the owner upon completion of service with department or transfer of ownership of the approved vehicle.

Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal

FILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE DECALS:

1. Vehicles shall be inspected by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) and pass a safety inspection.
2. Fire Department shall retain a copy of the OSP vehicle inspection.
3. Columns A through F must be completed for all vehicles which are to receive a date sticker.
4. Indicate if a Maltese Cross is needed with an (X) in column G. A Maltese Cross should only be requested for new members, new vehicles or to replace a damaged decal.
5. When a vehicle is sold, wrecked, or a member leaves the department, have the vehicle removed from the approved by list by filling in columns B, C, D, E, and I. Additionally, the decals must be removed from the windshield.
6. Maltese Cross and date sticker shall be placed in the lower right hand corner of windshield.
7. This form should be received by the SFM Fire Prevention Bureau no later than 90 days after the date of inspection.
8. Fire Departments must be current on submittal of fire incident reports before the decals are issued.

All forms need to be mailed to: Division of State Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention Bureau, ATTN: Vehicle Inspection, 8895 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 or fax to 614-644-1443.

The SFM Fire Prevention Bureau will randomly audit requests to verify OSP Inspection and State Certification.

If you have any questions, please call (888) 243-0305, option 1.

EXAMPLE:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
NO.	Date of Inspection	Name	Address	FF/EMS Certification Number	Year/Make of Vehicle	License Number	Maltese Cross (Indicate with an x)	New Number Issued (SFM use only)	Number to be Removed
1	1/05/17	Ralph Brown	1134 Cooper Lane	005647	16 GMC Pickup	N9V11			
2	1/6/17	William Smith	498 Miller St.,	007456	13 Ford Focus	CUT 545	X		
3	1/6/17	William Smith	498 Miller St.	007456	12 Ford Pickup	10KGUY			G000134

OSP's Responsibilities for Inspection

- Work with local department to set up inspection date, time, and location.
- Conduct a safety inspection using the Public Safety Vehicle Inspection Form. (Form COM 5031, pictured on next slide)
- Verify that each operator has a valid Ohio Driver's License.
- Verify that each vehicle operator is properly insured.

PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE INSPECTION FORM

This section must be completed prior to vehicle inspection by OSP; Applicant shall also show proof of insurance and vehicle registration for OSP to conduct inspection.

Member Name: _____
Last First Initial

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: OH Zip: _____ County _____

Firefighter or EMS State of Ohio Certification Number: _____

FDID: _____ Fire Department Name: _____

Vehicle Owner Name : _____

I am aware that the State of Ohio requires minimum insurance limits for bodily injury and property damage. If I am not the aforementioned listed owner of the vehicle, I attest that I have permission of the owner of the vehicle to operate the vehicle as a public safety vehicle.

Signature of Vehicle Operator/ Date

Check if acceptable

<input type="checkbox"/>	Steering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Body Condition	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaust System	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seat Belts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Windshield Wiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mirrors:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inside	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brakes:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lights:	<input type="checkbox"/>	High Beam	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low Beam	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taillights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turn Signals:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Front	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brake Lights
<input type="checkbox"/>	License Plate:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Front	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rear	<input type="checkbox"/>	License Illumination
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tires:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Front	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel/Rims
<input type="checkbox"/>	Warning Device:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Horn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Siren	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Warning Lights

Fill in or Circle one

Year & Make of Vehicle:	Mileage:
Type of Vehicle: Automobile Light Truck or Light Duty Truck	
Ohio License Plate Number:	Passenger or Commercial
Name of Insurance Carrier:	
Date of Original Inspection:	Passed Failed
Date of Re-Inspection:	Passed Failed

Signature of Ohio State Highway Patrol/ Date



Department of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal

After the Inspection

- The department Chief or designee shall submit a completed Public Safety Vehicle Application for Decals form (DOC 5082) to the State Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention Bureau.
 - Directions on where to send application can be found on the form.

Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal

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Current Vehicle Decal

- Once the application is received by the Fire Prevention Bureau several items occur before issuing a current vehicle decal.
 - Verify that the department is current with incident reporting with the SFM or Public Safety.
 - Verify the name of the Chief is what is on file with the SFM or Public Safety.
 - Verify each member's fire and/or EMS certification status.
 - Verify that the department's mailing address on the form is the one on file with the SFM.

Current Vehicle Decal

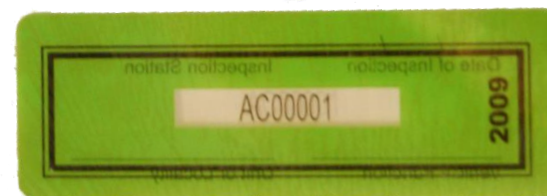
- When these items have been verified, the application and all decals are sent back to the department's mailing address.
 - If an item needs clarification, a member of the FPB will contact the number listed on the application.
 - If a member is found to not hold a current fire or EMS certification, a letter will be included with the application stating the decal is being withheld until the member obtains a current certification.

Current Vehicle Decal

- Maltese cross decals do not need replaced annually.
 - If the application has every checkbox for Maltese crosses, a member of the FPB will be contacting the number to verify the need for the Maltese cross decals.
- The decals must be displayed in the lower right corner of the front of windshield.
 - An example of each decal is on the next slide.

Public Safety Vehicle

- Maltese decal and year decal must be displayed in lower right corner of front windshield.



Where to Find the Required Forms

- Both the Public Safety Vehicle Inspection Form and Public Safety Vehicle Application for Decals is located on the Division of State Fire Marshal's website <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/>
- Items are found in the center of the page under Find Forms and Publications >Category: Fire Departments & Volunteers >Department Tools >Public Safety Vehicle Decal Application and Public Safety Vehicle Inspection Form

Where to Find the Required Forms

Use these two forms to complete the request for decals.

FIND FORMS & PUBLICATIONS

Select a category:

Fire Departments & Volunteers

Department Tools

Select an item -

- Select an item -

Fire Department Casualty Data Collection Form

Fire Department Incident Data Collection Form

Public Safety Vehicle Decal Application

Public Safety Vehicle Inspection Form

Update Fire Department Contact Information

Questions?

Fire Prevention Bureau Contact

Fire Prevention Bureau
8895 E. Main Street
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
1-888-243-0305 ext. 1
TTY/TDD: 1.800.750.0750
ofirs.ofirs@com.state.oh.us
www.com.ohio.gov/fire